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Approved By EUR--Mr. Kohler  
7/23/62

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SECRETARY'S GENEVA TRIP  
July 19-26, 1962

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Date: July 22, 1962  
Time: 12 noon  
Place: US Mission

Participants:

United States

Canada

Mr. Kohler  
Mr. Holloway

Mr. George Ignatieff, Permanent Representative to E  
Mr. Ross Campbell, Special Assistant to Minister  
for External Affairs

Subject: Secretary's July 21 Talk with Gromyko

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Mr. Ignatieff and Mr. Campbell called upon Mr. Kohler to discuss the talk the Secretary had with Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko on July 21. Mr. Kohler reviewed generally the content of SRCTO 14, highlighting the following points:

1. It is a little difficult to say where we stand at this particular moment. The meeting scheduled for dinner on the 22nd may give us a clearer idea.
2. In answer to the Secretary's question, Gromyko said that the Soviets had been disappointed in the re-statement of the US position on Berlin given by the President to Ambassador Dobrynin last week.
3. The Secretary told Gromyko that we were finding it difficult to understand the reason for Soviet insistence upon proposals for the removal of the Western troop presence from West Berlin. The matter is not negotiable.
4. Gromyko returned several times to the theme of West Berlin as a NATO forward bastion.
5. The

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5. The long statement which Gromyko read to the Secretary was a re-run of the TASS statement of last week, though harsher in tone than the actual conversation in which it was employed.

6. The Secretary reserved comment on this statement although he did observe that it was disappointing to him in that it held no hint of reciprocity from the Soviet side in dealing with US vital interests. We had attempted to have consideration for Soviet vital interests in drawing up our Principles Paper last March.

In response to questions from the two Canadians, Mr. Kohler said:

1. The buzzing incidents in the Berlin air corridors last week seemed unrelated to the Soviet tactics at Geneva.

2. Gromyko has set no new deadline for a GDR peace treaty.

3. There was no hint that because the Soviets had "delivered" on Laos, it now expected the US to relent on its Berlin position.

4. It is our intention to continue the dialogue with the Soviets on Berlin.

5. There has been no settlement on the question of incidents at the Berlin Wall, although the situation there was quieter.

It was agreed that the Canadians would have another talk with Mr. Kohler on Berlin within the next days.

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